

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

FACTS, NEWS, AND GOSSIP.

The Supreme Court—Age of the Judges—Cabinet Speculation—Randall and the South.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, January 8.—It was at the opening of the Supreme Court to-day. Promptly at 12 M. there was a rap of the gavel, and everybody in the court-room arose as the judges entered. They were clad in black gowns, and on reaching the bench faced and bowed to the bar and visitors. Justice Miller occupied the seat of the Chief Justice. Among the lawyers present was General Hunt, but the most conspicuous was Ben. Butler. He wore his traditional button-hole bouquet composed of white and red roses. These did not represent Fort and Lancaster, but Butler and Blaine. It was hard to say which of these presidential candidates came out of the contest whist. I took the trouble to interview an officer of the court in regard to the ages of the judges and the dates of their appointments. I found that Chief Justice Waite was born in 1816 and was appointed in 1874, that Miller was born in 1816 and appointed in 1862, that Field was born in 1816 and appointed in 1863, that Bradley was born in 1813 and appointed in 1870, that Harlan was born in 1833 and appointed in 1877, that Woods was born in 1826 and appointed in 1880, that Matthews was born in 1824 and appointed in 1881, that Gray was born in 1828 and appointed in 1881, and that Blatchford was born in 1820 and appointed in 1882. Under the law any judge of this court or any United States Court who has served ten years and reached the age of seventy can retire on full pay. Thereport to-day is that the Chief Justice is improving. His friends say that his illness has been greatly exaggerated, and that his attack of paralysis when he was twenty-one years of age has not affected him since. In newspaper circles you hear that several Republican judges of the Supreme Court made statements to different parties in regard to his condition, which led to the newspaper reports of his serious illness. I was struck to-day with the fact no southerner in sympathy with the South now occupies a seat on the Supreme bench.

WILL GET EVEN WITH THEM.

A newspaper correspondent informed me at the Capitol to-day that he heard a member of the grand jury of the United States Court now in session at Alexandria say that he was in Virginia on an errand of some kind, and that he was a member of the grand jury of the United States Court now in session at Alexandria.

THE CABINET.

One of the best-informed and most thoughtful Democratic statesmen here said to me to-day: "I cannot name to you but three men who will certainly go into the Cabinet." I asked him who they were, and he replied: "Bayard, Garland, and Whitney of New York."

PERSONAL NEWS ITEMS.

Hon. John W. Daniel is in the city. Senator Shepherd, of the State Democratic Committee, was at the Capitol to-day. Representative McAdoo, of New Jersey, the brilliant orator who accompanied Mr. Randall on his southern tour, informs me that he will lecture at Richmond February 25th for the benefit of one of the companies of the First Virginia regiment. The proceeds will go towards defraying the expenses of this company in attending the inauguration of Mr. Cleveland. Among the Virginians here to-day were Senator Henson of Loudoun; Bascom Lumery, of Gordonsville, and Major R. W. Hunter, Representative Green, of North Carolina, was congratulated on his speech on the bill to abolish the tobacco and fruit-brandy taxes. He charged Mr. Hiseock with appropriating his bill. An endeavor is being made to secure quarters for the Third Virginia regiment in Alexandria during the inauguration. To-day was set for the Vice-Massey case, but I was right last night in predicting it would go over until February. North Carolinians here are all pleased with the Legislature of their State will next week reject Governor Vance senator. He is one of the students of the Senate, and never goes into debate without being thoroughly equipped with facts. Professor William Taylor Thon, of Virginia, was at the Capitol to-day.

WHAT MR. HEWITT, OF ALABAMA, SAYS.

I heard Representative Hewitt, of Alabama, give a graphic description to-day of the reception of Messrs. Randall, McAdoo, and party at Birmingham, in his district. Ten thousand people met him at the train, and the concerted ringing of bells and blowing of whistles from engines and furnaces drowned the music of all the bands that had been obtained far and near. From a chimney 180 feet high floated a flag, placed there by a daring workman who climbed to the top of it on an iron rod. An ex-Virginia congressman asked him if he was along the railroad leading to Birmingham. "Why," said he, "men, women, and the military met him and showed him more attention than if he had been a presidential candidate." Some one here asked Mr. Hewitt if he thought Randall would be a candidate for the next speakership, and he replied, "I hope not; for while the people delight to honor him, their representatives are not all in the passage of him."

THE PASSAGE OF THE REAGAN BILL.

The Reagan inter-State commerce bill passed the House to-day by the surprising vote of 138 to 75. It will be remembered that this bill prohibits discriminations such as drawbacks, short pooling, and the charging of a rate per mile for hauling freight a short distance than is charged for a long one. These were the points at which it had not the support of a majority in the Senate were a little set back by the large vote it received in the House. The Cullum bill, now before the Senate, provides for a commission. Mr. Reagan has devoted ten years in Congress to this subject, and is congratulated on the result he has accomplished. His opponents to-night contend that the Senate will not pass it.

Messrs. Cabell, Garrison, O'Ferrall, Tucker, and George D. Wise voted for

the bill, and Messrs. Libby and John S. Wise against it.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

This afternoon the House voted to consider the bill for the erection and enlargement of a number of public buildings, but their opponents began at once to filibuster, so as to secure an adjournment and prevent action.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.

Government receipts to-day: Customs, \$542,764; internal revenue, \$928,413.

Colonel D. A. Lamont, private secretary to Mr. Cleveland, is in the city.

The friends of the Spanish treaty are actively at work to secure its ratification.

Colonel Boudnot, who was an Indian delegate in the Confederate Congress, wants to be Indian Commissioner under the next Administration.

The report is that if Mr. Bayard does not go into the Cabinet he will press Mr. Pendleton for a position.

The River and Harbor Committee will recommend the appropriation of \$150,000 for the improvement of the Potomac-river flats.

Senators Voorhes, Hampton, and Gibson of Louisiana, were among the callers at the White House to-day.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee has appointed a sub-committee, of which Governor Curtin is chairman, to consider the Congo question.

The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans was not celebrated here to-day by any parade.

Washington society will have no rest until Good Friday. By that time the dresses will all be the worse for wear, and so will their wearers.

Three hundred uniformed Democrats from Brooklyn will be here on the 4th.

A colored Blaine and Logan club to-day requested to be permitted to have a place in the procession on the 4th.

XLVIIIth CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1885.

Senate.

Among the bills introduced in the Senate was one by Mr. Allison relating to the fees of pension claim agents and attorneys. He said he did not wish to be responsible for all its provisions, but they were the identical provisions found in the pension bill recently passed by the House of Representatives. It was legislation, he said, and repealed all legislative provisions in the pension appropriation bill of last year. There was no great complaint that that legislation of last year was hasty and unjust to the soldiers of the country, and it had been indirectly charged that the Senate was responsible for that legislation.

The fact was that the legislation of last year came from the House on the regular pension bill. Under the rules of the Senate there was no possibility of having legislative provisions in the pension appropriation bill, because amendments could not be offered nor debate had with respect to it. He introduced this bill in order that it may be referred to the Committee on Pensions, so that it may be carefully considered in committee and in the Senate.

A long debate followed upon the general subject of engraving legislative provisions upon appropriation bills.

The bill introduced by Mr. Allison was then referred to the Committee on Pensions.

Mr. Hawley offered a resolution, which, on the suggestion of Mr. Harris, he over one day—requesting the President, if not incompatible with public interest, to communicate to the Senate the historical statement concerning the public policy of the Executive Department of the Confederate States during the late war, reported to have been lately filed in the War Department by General Sherman.

Mr. Lapham, pursuant to notice given some days since, then addressed the Senate on the subject of commercial treaties. On the conclusion of Mr. Lapham's remarks, Mr. Morrill, in moving to refer to the Finance Committee the resolution offered by himself, relating to reciprocity treaties, and to which his remarks of yesterday were directed, took occasion to say that he supposed the Committee on Finance would not be rendered altogether unnecessary by reason of the action of the State Department, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Morgan remarked that he had no doubt Mr. Morrill would like to have his handling in his own charge for nursing, but before reference to the Committee on Finance he (Mr. Morgan) desired to be heard on the resolution. He therefore moved to postpone the reference till to-morrow, which Mr. Morrill agreed, and reference was accordingly postponed.

At 2:45 P. M., on motion of Mr. Miller, of California, the Senate went into executive session. Mr. Miller remarking that he made the motion "in accordance with notice already given."

The doors were reopened at 5:25 P. M., when the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The House resumed consideration of the inter-State commerce bill, the pending question being an amendment offered by Mr. Hammond, of Georgia, to an amendment offered by Mr. Perkins, of Kansas, (providing for a commission) providing that the commissioners shall not be appointed until the 5th of March, 1885. This amendment was agreed to—yeas, 71; nays, 12.

Mr. Perkins's amendment as amended was lost—yeas, 96; nays, 124.

Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill making additional appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885. The Committee of the Whole, Mr. Randall gave notice, will call it up for consideration to-morrow morning.

Mr. O'Neill, of Pennsylvania, offered as a substitute for the inter-State commerce bill a proposition for the appointment of five commissioners, and defining their duties. Lost—yeas, 63; nays, 133.

Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, moved to recommit the bill, with instructions, to the Committee on Commerce, to report back the commission bill. Lost—yeas, 92; nays, 132.

The bill was then passed—yeas, 138; nays, 75.

"This," said Mr. Reagan, when the result was announced, "is a fitting celebration for the eighth day of January."

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the Alabama contested-election case of Craig vs. Shelly. The resolutions which unseat Shelly (Democrat) and declare Craig (Republican) to have been elected were adopted without debate or division, and Mr. Craig appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.

A contest then arose between Mr. Townshend, of Illinois, with the Mexican pension bill, Mr. Singleton, of Mississippi, with the congressional library bill, and Mr. Stockslager, of Indiana, with the special order relative to public building measures, each pressing his favorite proposition for precedence in consideration.

Mr. Stockslager proved successful in the struggle—his motion to go into Committee of the Whole being carried by a vote of yeas 110; nays, 102; but this fight was not yet over, for a motion to

reconsider was entered and another roll-call was needed to table this motion.

Mr. Randall then moved an adjournment. Lost—yeas, 63; nays, 130.

After a couple of roll-calls on filibustering motions the House (at 4:30 o'clock) adjourned.

THE OLD NORTH STATE.

The Legislature—Abstract of the Governor's Message—Colonel McClure.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALPHIGH, N. C., January 8.—To-day the General Assembly completed its organization by electing the remaining officers. Nearly every member is now here, and the work is already proceeding smoothly and harmoniously. Governor Jarvis's message was read in both houses at noon, and attracts attention as an able document. The Governor finds cause for special satisfaction in the condition of the finances of the State. He recommends an increase of the number of judges to relieve the clogged business of the courts. He regards this as an imperative necessity to relieve a great and growing evil. He highly compliments the good work done by the Department of Agriculture. He recommends the erection of a permanent and commodious museum in which to display the vast and varied collection now belonging to the State. He bears cheerful testimony to the fact that the colored people of the State have been, with rare exceptions, orderly, law-abiding citizens, and notes many marked signs of improvement in their condition. He recommends an increase of salaries, so that the Governor shall receive \$5,000, the Chief Justice \$4,000, Associate Justices \$3,500, and Superior Court Judges, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Attorney-General, \$3,000. In regard to convicts he recommends their use in draining and reclaiming the swamp-lands of the east.

To-day Colonel McClure, of the Philadelphia Times, was the recipient of many attentions. At 8 o'clock this evening, by special invitation of the General Assembly as expressed in a joint resolution, he addressed both houses of the Legislature and a brilliant gathering of prominent citizens. He was escorted to the hall by Mr. Boykin, president of the Senate, and Colonel Holt, Speaker of the House, and was introduced by Governor Jarvis.

PARNELLS' ACHIEVEMENT.

He Becomes a Conspicuous Example of the American "Boss."

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, January 8.—The Times says, apropos of Parnell's achievement at Thurles yesterday in forcing O'Riyan to withdraw from the parliamentary contest to make room for his candidate, "Parnell has accomplished a feat which will excite the envy of the most skillful political organizers. He has quelled, without trouble, what seemed to be an incipient revolt against his authority. He is a most conspicuous example of the American 'boss' on this side of the Atlantic. No candidate in the future will care to place himself in the position of the unfortunate O'Riyan, who was compelled to submit to being coldly praised by Parnell for ridding himself from feelings of false pride. Parnell has taken an accurate measure of the people he rules. He scarcely conceals the iron hand within the velvet glove. It is presumptuous to speculate on the limits of his power over the people."

DUBLIN, January 8.—The United Ireland to-day says: The result of the convention at Thurles yesterday is a death-blow to the cowardly O'Riyan, who has reckoned upon Tipperary as an ally.

The Freeman's Journal says: There is no mistaking the spirit of the brave men in gallant Tipperary. Parnell and Archbishop Croke deserve an example of discipline to be shown on the same occasion. This example will be initiated throughout Ireland hereafter.

Submarine Shocks at Sea.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., January 8.—The British bark Isabel, which has arrived here from Cadiz, reports passing a large derelict Norwegian bark, laden with pitch pine, on the 20th ultimo in latitude 41 degrees 6 minutes north, longitude 39 degrees 37 minutes west. The name of the bark was the Alhama of Arendal. No vestige was found of the crew.

Two days previous, in latitude 38 degrees 51 minutes north, longitude 29 degrees 55 minutes west, the Isabel experienced a terrific earthquake. The shocks lasted fifteen minutes. The thunderous submarine roaring was appalling. The ship was shaken in every fibre, and the crew, paralyzed with fear, broke through all discipline and cut the boats loose. Cessation of the shocks restored tranquillity on board. It was calm and fine at the time.

Connecticut State Officers Elected.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

HARTFORD, Conn., January 8.—The Legislature assembled in joint convention at 10 o'clock this morning, and proceeded to the choice of State officers by ballot, no candidate having received a majority of all votes cast in November. The result was the election of the Republican nominees, as follows: Governor, Henry B. Harrison, of New Haven; Lieutenant-Governor, Lorrin Cooke, of Barkhamsted; Secretary of State, Charles A. Russell, of Killingly; Treasurer, Valentine B. Chamberlain, of New Britain; Comptroller, Luzerne J. Munson, of Waterbury.

Lynchings in Kentucky.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

LOUISVILLE, Ky., January 8.—A special to the Times from Mount Sterling, Ky., says: A few weeks ago John Stapleton, son of a white man, was arrested and sent to Mount Sterling to protect him from mob-vengeance. The father was arrested as an accessory to the murder. On Saturday night a crowd of thirty men took him from jail and hanged him in front of the court-house.

Burned to Death in Jail.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS, January 8.—The county jail was discovered on fire yesterday morning, and the first arrivals from the town were greeted by the agonizing cries of two prisoners confined within the burning building. Before assistance could be rendered, the structure, which was built of wood, was burned to the ground. A search among the ruins was rewarded by finding the charred remains of Rafael Overa, a Mexican, in jail for horse-stealing, and William Allison, imprisoned for manslaughter. Allison was to have been released to-day on \$3,000 bail.

Riotous Striking Miners.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

DES MOINES, Ia., January 8.—A special to the State Register from Angus says that the striking miners started a riot there last evening and drove all the men who were at work out of town, beating and kicking them badly. One man at Keystone Mine, No. 2, defended himself and was killed. Six others are reported seriously injured. The town is in the possession of the strikers and there is no telling what the result will be.

Expect to Pay in Full.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, January 8.—Opdyke & Co. announce that owing to favorable arrangements in regard to real estate and to the aid of friends, they expect to pay in full a dividend of 75 per cent, or more will be paid by the assignee this month and the remainder on afterwards.

INTER-STATE COMMERCE.

Provisions of the Bill as Passed by the House of Representatives.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The inter-State commerce bill as it passed the House to-day provides that it shall be unlawful for a person or persons engaged alone or associated with others in the transportation of property by railroads or by pipe-lines from one State or Territory to or through one or more other States or Territories of the United States, or to or from any foreign country, directly or indirectly, to charge to or receive from any person or persons any greater or less rate or amount of freight compensation or reward than is by him or them charged to or received from any other person or persons for like and contemporaneous service in carrying, receiving, delivering, storing, or handling of the same. All charges for such services shall be reasonable, and any person or persons having purchased a ticket for passage from one State to another, or paid the required fare, shall receive the same treatment and be afforded equal facilities and accommodations as are furnished all other persons holding tickets of the same class, without discrimination; but nothing in this act shall be construed to deny to railroads the right to provide separate accommodations for passengers, as they may deem best for the public comfort and safety, or to relate to transportation relating to points wholly within the limits of one State; provided that no discrimination is made on account of race or color, and that furnishing separate accommodations, with equal facilities and equal comforts at the same charges shall not be considered discrimination; nor shall any railroad company or its officers charge to or receive from any person who is to be conveyed from one State or Territory into another any sum exceeding three cents per mile for the distance to be travelled by such persons; and all persons engaged as aforesaid shall furnish without discrimination the same facilities for the carriage, receiving, delivery, storage, and handling of all property of like character carried by him or them, and shall perform with equal expedition the same kind of service as they perform for other persons, and no discrimination shall be made on account of race or color, or on account of the mode of transportation thereof as aforesaid. No break, stoppage, or interruption, nor any contract, agreement, or understanding, shall be made to prevent the carriage of any property from being treated as one continuous carriage, in the meaning of this act, from the place of shipment to the place of destination, unless such stoppage, interruption, contract, arrangement, or understanding was made in good faith for some special and necessary purpose, without any intent to avoid or interrupt such continuous carriage or to evade any of the provisions of this act.

Section 2 prohibits drawbacks or rebates to shippers.

Section 3 forbids pooling combinations.

Section 4 prohibits greater charge for a short haul than for a longer haul which includes the shorter one.

Section 5 requires freight schedules to be published.

Section 6 applies this act to all transportation, whether it be confined to one or several roads.

Section 7 provides civil penalties for infractions of this law, and prescribes that no cases brought under it shall be removed from the State to the United States courts.

Section 8 prescribes criminal penalties which may be imposed upon individuals who carry on the transportation business and who violate this law.

Section 9 declares that this act does not apply to transportation wholly within one State.

Section 10 defines who are embraced in the words "person or persons" used herein.

The Nicaragua Treaty in Executive Session.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The Senate closed its doors at five minutes before 3 o'clock this afternoon upon the motion of the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations for the purpose of considering the Nicaragua treaty and the committee's recommendation that it be ratified. The treaty was, however, not reached. The first measure on the executive calendar was Senator Conger's resolution, which had been reported adversely by the committee, to make public the text of the Nicaragua treaty, and the Senate, after two and a half hours' discussion, decided, by a vote of 40 to 12, not to make the text of the treaty public in advance of the action of the Senate. Something was said in respect to debating treaties with open doors, although the opposition was not directly involved in the pending resolution, and the inconvenience and annoyance which might result should the opinions of senators become known in advance was dwelt upon. Agents of foreign governments, it was urged, might seek to influence senators through their constituents. Nothing occurred to indicate what action the Senate will take in relation to the treaty. The discussion to-day did not involve the question of considering purely commercial treaties with open doors.

Consecration of Bishop Paret.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The ceremonies attending the consecration of Rev. Dr. William Paret as Bishop of the diocese of Maryland were held to-day at Epiphany Church, on G street, of which the new Bishop was for eight years rector. Before 10 o'clock the doors of the church were besieged by people, but the arrangements were such that none of the general public was admitted until the clergyman, vestrymen, and others whose attendance was especially required had been seated. The bishops present were Alfred Lee, of Delaware; Stevins Whitehead, of Pennsylvania; Lyman, of North Carolina; Neely, of Maine; Lay, of Easton, Md.; Randolph, of Virginia; Perry, of Iowa; Peterkin, of West Virginia, and Elliott, of Western Texas. Bishop Lyman preached the sermon and Bishop Lee conducted the consecration ceremonies.

Mr. Everts and the New York Senators.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

ALBANY, January 8.—The Evening Journal announces that Mr. Everts has a clear majority in the Legislature. It gives fifty-four members as for Everts against Morton, and says unless the promises of the general public are carried out at attacks upon them in the *Crisis* newspaper, armed themselves with swords, proceeded to the editor's rooms, and attacked the editor, M. D. M. Due was badly wounded, but secured his revolver, with which he shot one of his assailants three times, and held the other at bay until he was secured by other attacks of the paper. The wounded policeman will probably die. The editor is not seriously injured.

Hon. David B. Hill, the new Governor of New York, is said to be constitutionally bashful.

LATE WEATHER REPORT.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 9.—A. M.—For the Middle Atlantic States, warmer, fair weather, southerly winds, generally shifting to westerly, falling barometer.

For the South Atlantic States, warmer, fair weather, southerly winds, lower barometer.

The weather in Richmond yesterday was partly cloudy and mostly clear.

Range of Thermometer Yesterday.

6 A. M. 44

9 A. M. 49

Noon 46

3 P. M. 50

6 P. M. 54

Midnight 50

Mean temperature 54 1/2

MRS. BLAINE'S FRIGIDITY.

How She Was to Manage the White House.

[Washington correspondence Chicago News.]

It has been the town-talk for years that had Garfield lived Mrs. Blaine would have put to practice a code of social ethics at the White House which would have barred out almost every one who ordinarily visits there.

It is related that on one occasion a lady from Springfield, Ill., who was visiting in Washington, called with some friends to call on Mrs. Blaine. It was one of Mrs. Garfield's informal receptions, where *carte blanche* is usually extended to any person who is decently dressed and respectable. This lady wore a travelling suit. When she arose to leave Mrs. Blaine approached her and said: "Pardon me, we desire to make these receptions very exclusive. If you wish to attend in future you must come in evening dress, or you will not be admitted."

A few days prior to the Chicago Convention Mrs. Blaine and several other ladies met in a fashionable dry-goods establishment on the avenue. The conversation turned upon the result of the Convention's work. "You may be sure of one thing," said Mrs. Blaine: "if Mr. Blaine is elected the lines will be rigidly drawn at the White House. There'll be no rabble there, as there was under Mrs. Garfield."

Mrs. Blaine's temper and rudeness were perhaps never better illustrated than on one occasion at the White House immediately preceding the close of the Hayes Administration. There was no love lost between the Blaines and the Hayeses, and neither took the slightest pains to conceal their dislike. Upon the occasion referred to the Blaines had been invited to a grand state dinner. Mrs. Blaine was asked if she would accept. "Yes," she replied, "will; but I'll not take my gloves off nor will I eat any dinner," and she did not.

She even refused to draw her chair to the table, and sat like a sphinx during the whole meal without uttering a word. These and similar acts of rudeness account fully for the dread people had here lest she might have the right to live in the White House.

Washington Items.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The Secretary of the Treasury to-day sent the following estimates from the Secretary of War to Congress: For the erection of a gun-fund, \$1,000,000; improving the Missouri river, \$1,100,000; Missouri River Commission, for surveys, \$150,000; Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa., \$7,000—total, \$2,317,000. The estimates for the Missouri river are the same as those contained in the recommendations of the Missouri River Commission for appropriations for that stream.

The bill reported to the House to-day by Mr. Randall from the Appropriations Committee for expenses of the navy for six months ending 30th June appropriates \$2,120,155, on the basis of one half of the bill which passed the House at the last session of Congress for the fiscal year 1885. This is an entirely new bill, and is the fourth naval appropriation bill now pending.

Colonel Lamont, Governor Cleveland's private secretary, paid a flying visit to Washington to-day, calling upon President Arthur, was shown through the White House, and had a consultation with the chairman of the inauguration committee. He returned to Albany to-night.

An Important Decision.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., January 8.—The Supreme Court has rendered a decision which will work a revolution in commercial affairs where parties undertake to evade a just settlement of debts by improper preferences. An appeal was taken under section 2014 of the General Statutes, rendering void assignments by insolvent debtors giving preference to one creditor. The court held that the object of the act was to prevent an insolvent debtor from transferring or assigning his property for the benefit of one or more creditors to the exclusion of others; and whether this object is sought to be effected by formal deed of assignment or in any other way, it can make no difference. Any other view would sacrifice substance to mere form and enable insolvent debtors, by evasion, to effect the purpose declared by statute to be unlawful. The opinion was by Associate Justice McVey, Chief Justice Simpson concurring, and the case was remanded to the Circuit Court for a new trial in accordance with the decision.

To Increase Power in Locomotives.

A Buffalo telegram says: A newly-patented device for increasing the traction of freight engines was tested on the Rochester and Pittsburgh road to-day. It is asserted that it keeps the engine from slipping and saves rocking. The weight of the locomotive was increased by the engine making the test a new one of forty-two tons weight. Superintendent Gardner attached the engine to fifty-six empty cars, which were equally as difficult to haul as twenty-eight loaded ones. On the road near Titus Hill, where the grade is sixty-two feet to the mile, the engine was stalled. There was a wet track and a side wind. The engine held well to the track. Superintendent Gardner considered the test a satisfactory one. He said an engine without the attachment could not possibly do the work. The device may be used at will, so that when the engine is making fast time it is no hindrance. The Flint and Pere Marquette road has already adopted it.

An Editor Attacked by Policemen.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

PARIS, January 8.—Two brothers, members of the police force, became engaged at attacks upon them in the *Crisis* newspaper, armed themselves with swords, proceeded to the editor's rooms, and attacked the editor, M. D. M. Due was badly wounded, but secured his revolver, with which he shot one of his assailants three times, and held the other at bay until he was secured by other attacks of the paper. The wounded policeman will probably die. The editor is not seriously injured.

BANKS.

National Bank of Va., 100 87

State Bank of Va., 100 104 107

Union of Richmond, 50 64

INSURANCE COS.

Va. Fire and Marine, 25 34 35